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Stefanie A. Malick

Date

12/3/99



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Zittel et al.

Serial No.: 09/419,716

Examiner: (not assigned)

Filed: October 14, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1761

Title: *Method and Rotary Blancher for Processing Food Product*

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

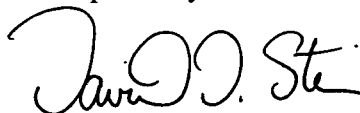
This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under the provisions 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b)(3). A copy of each reference or document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 is also included as required under 37 CFR § 1.98.

REMARKS

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing of a first office action on the merits as permitted under § 1.97(b)(3) and therefore no fee is due at this time. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 14-1080 if necessary.

Applicants make no assertion regarding the materiality of the documents noted in the attached Form 1449. Each of the documents may be relevant as general background to the present invention. Applicants therefore request that these documents be considered during examination of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Stein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Stein" clearly distinguishable.

David D. Stein
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Dated: December 3, 1999

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